

Press release



CTC

Group Administration Centre | Nursling

For Immediate Release – 25 April 2009

CTC PILOTS BEAT THE RECESSION

Aer Lingus commenced international operations out of its first UK base in April this year with 16 CTC pilots forming the majority of the base complement.

The Airbus type-rated pilots were trained through CTC Wings and completed six months of line training with their partner airlines during summer 2008. They were part of a small group of pilots released at the end of the season due to an anticipated downturn in activity during the winter period. This was the first time since the launch of CTC Wings five years ago that CTC pilots were not taken on permanently by their original partner airline. However, through CTC's introduction they are now employed on permanent contracts with Aer Lingus and can look forward to being part of some exciting growth plans over the coming years.

Additionally CTC has facilitated opportunities for other CTC Wings pilots with Gulf Air, Tiger Airways, Air Malta, easyJet and easyJet Suisse. Captain Lee Woodward, Head of CTC Wings and Executive Director for CTC said "Part of our philosophy at CTC has always been to facilitate placement for our trainees and our track record is something we are very proud of. By responding to Aer Lingus in this way we were able to resolve the airline's resourcing requirement and secure jobs for our pilots. We placed over 100 pilots during the first quarter of 2009 through CTC Wings and CTC FlexiCrew. It's fantastic to be able to secure positions with the airlines for our pilots despite the recession."

One of the newly employed Aer Lingus pilots, First Officer Sam Colley, said: "I personally feel absolutely privileged to be a part of CTC. There is no training school in the world that I am aware of that would do this for cadets after having six months with an airline. I'm sure that all the others would say 'you're on your own'."

Steve Kelly, Head of HR for Pilots and Cabin Crew for Aer Lingus, said "From the outset of our discussions last year, we have been impressed and excited by the range of services CTC has to offer. The standard and quality of the pilots we interviewed was very high and our dealings to date have been extremely professionally handled by the CTC team. Within the next 12 months our Gatwick base alone is expected to grow from 4 to 8 aircraft with a first year total investment of £100 million and over 120 new pilot and cabin crew jobs being created. We will certainly be looking to CTC to help with our aircrew resourcing alongside these expansion plans."

For more information on CTC Aviation, log on to www.ctcaviation.com

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About CTC Aviation Group plc

CTC is one of the world's leading full-service airline training providers, training over 1900 aircrew for almost 50 global airlines each year. Our UK and NZ based Crew Training Centres house state-of-the-art Airbus and Boeing simulators, hi-tech Computer Based Training facilities and a fleet of the latest, modern technology training aircraft to support our Cadet training programme – CTC Wings; all supported by one of the most experienced teams of Training Captains and Instructors worldwide.

Our corporate philosophy is based around *innovation, flexibility, expertise* and *quality*. We are renowned for developing innovative approaches to airline training and recruitment challenges.

Our portfolio spans the full spectrum of airline training requirements: pilots and cabin crew; basic licence and ATPL training through to TRE Standardisation; ground school, simulator provision and line training; management and consultancy support; start ups, conversions and recurrent. We have recently launched a range of Software Solutions combining our airline knowledge with the technological skills of our Information Technology team.

In addition, CTC Aviation Jet Services Limited provides executive jet management and operational support for both corporate and private clients.

Airline customers include Air New Zealand, Air Malawi, Air Seychelles, British Airways, Jet2.com, easyJet, EuroCypria, Kuwait Airways, Monarch Airlines, NetJets, OpenSkies, Royal Brunei Airlines, Thomas Cook Airlines, Thomson Airways, UK CAA, Virgin Atlantic Airways and Vueling.

CTC Wings is a unique, comprehensive programme of developmental training for airline pilots. The cadet route takes young people with no flying experience all the way to the right hand seat of a commercial airliner in less than two years. The *CTC Wings* ATP route into the programme provides opportunities for licensed pilots to join at the intermediate phase of training.

CTC FlexiCrew launched in December 2008 is a flexible aircrew resourcing solution for airlines. A registered database of pilots from around the world with varying degrees of experience – from newly qualified to Instructors and Examiners, Captains and First Officers with a wide range of licence types and operational backgrounds. All pilots are required to attend a selection interview and simulator assessment with CTC before airline placement. Airlines from around the globe can benefit from this service which offers pilots on a fully flexible contract basis to suit airline requirements.

www.ctcaviation.com

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